IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A nonaqueous liquid electrolyte comprising:

a nonaqueous solvent,

an electrolyte dissolved in the nonaqueous solvent, and

a macromolecular material added to the nonaqueous solvent, wherein the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte is a fluid having a viscosity at 20°C of 7 cP to 30,000 cP.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The nonaqueous liquid electrolyte according to Claim 1, wherein the apparent viscosity of the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte at 20°C is 50 cP to 10,000 cP at a shear rate of 20 S^{-1}.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The nonaqueous liquid electrolyte of claim 1 ~~comprising:~~

~~a nonaqueous solvent,~~

~~an electrolyte dissolved in the nonaqueous solvent, and~~

~~a macromolecular material added to the nonaqueous solvent,~~

wherein the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte at 20°C is a fluid which exhibits non-Newtonian properties.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The nonaqueous liquid electrolyte according to Claim 3, wherein the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte is a fluid whose apparent viscosity at 20°C decreases with the increase of the shear rate.

Claim 5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The nonaqueous liquid electrolyte of claim 1 ~~comprising:~~

~~a nonaqueous solvent,~~

~~an electrolyte dissolved in the nonaqueous solvent, and~~

~~a macromolecular material added to the nonaqueous solvent,~~

wherein the ratio of ion conductivity σ (10^{-3} S/cm) to viscosity η (cP), p (σ/η), in the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte at 20°C is <0.1.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A nonaqueous liquid electrolyte comprising:

a nonaqueous solvent containing γ-butyrolactone,

an electrolyte dissolved in the nonaqueous solvent, and

a macromolecular material comprising the structure represented by the formula:

$$—(CH_2\text{-}CH_2\text{-}O)_n—$$

wherein $n \geq 1$, which is added to the nonaqueous solvent,

wherein the content of the macromolecular material added to the nonaqeous solvent is 0.01% or more but less than 10% by weight and is sufficient to bring the viscosity of the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte at 20°C within the range of 7 cp to 30,000 cP.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The nonaqueous liquid electrolyte according to Claim 7, wherein the average molecular weight of the macromolecular material is in the range of 1×10^3 to 1×10^8.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A nonaqueous liquid electrolyte secondary battery comprising:

a positive electrode containing an active material,

a negative electrode containing a material which absorbs and desorbs lithium ions, and

a liquid electrolyte sandwiched between the positive and negative electrodes, wherein the liquid electrolyte comprises:

a nonaqueous solvent containing γ-butyrolactone, an electrolyte dissolved in the nonaqueous solvent, and

a macromolecular material comprising the structure represented by the formula:

~~$-(CH_2\text{-}CH_2\text{-}O)_n-$~~

wherein $n \geq 1$, which is added to the nonaqueous solvent, the content of the macromolecular material being 0.01% or more but less than 10% by weight and is sufficient to bring the viscosity of the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte at 20°C within the range of 7 cP to 30,000 cP.

Claim 11 (Cancelled)

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The nonaqueous liquid electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 10,

~~comprising:~~

~~a positive electrode containing an active material,~~

~~a negative electrode containing a material which absorbs and desorbs lithium ions,~~ ~~and~~

~~a liquid electrolyte sandwiched between the positive and negative electrodes,~~

wherein the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte comprises~~;~~: a nonaqueous solvent, an electrolyte dissolved in the nonaqueous solvent and a macromolecular material added to the nonaqueous solvent, and the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte at 20°C is a fluid which exhibits non-Newtonian properties.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The nonaqueous liquid electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 10

~~comprising:~~

~~a positive electrode containing an active material, a negative electrode containing a material which absorbs and desorbs lithium ions, and~~

~~a liquid electrolyte sandwiched between the positive and negative electrodes,~~

wherein the ratio of ion conductivity σ (10^{-3} S/cm) to viscosity η (cp), p (σ/η), in the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte at 20°C is <0.1.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The nonaqueous liquid electrolyte secondary battery according to claim 13, including a nonaqueous electrolyte comprising a macromolecular material added to the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The nonaqueous liquid electrolyte secondary battery according to Claim 10, wherein a separator made of a porous material having pores is disposed between the positive and negative electrodes and the nonaqueous liquid electrolyte is retained within the pores of the separator to be sandwiched between the positive and negative electrodes.